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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 15, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 10 totaled an estimated 17.7 billion ton-miles, 14.8 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 10 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 169.2 billion ton-miles, 11.7 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended March 10 totaled 401,751 cars, 13.3 percent above 1983, and 2.7 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 20.2 percent in the East, 8.8 percent in the South and 11.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were up. Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were up 5,616 cars (34.2 percent), highest since the week ended November 3, 1979. Metallic ores increased by 4,798 cars (43.2 percent) and coal loadings posted a gain of 17,931 cars (18.0 percent). Twelve of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 3 totaled 52,235 cars, up 20.9 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 92,115 trailers and/or containers, 23.4 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first nine weeks of the year was 433,023 cars, 15.7 percent higher than last year, and 758,907 trailers and/or containers, up 19.2 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 3/10/84:

	Loadings in Week ended March 10, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	26,994	D	240	0.9	I	935	3.5
Other farm products	3,399	I	381	12.6	D	632	18.6
Metallic ores	15,899	I	4,798	43.2	I	1,505	9.5
Coal	117,489	I	17,931	18.0	I	7,177	6.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,707	I	1,607	19.8	I	635	6.5
Nonmetallic minerals	12,291	I	1,470	13.6	I	1,373	11.2
Grain mill products	11,266	D	606	5.1	D	163	1.4
Food and kindred products	10,973	D	1,226	10.1	D	291	2.7
Primary forest products	13,884	D	897	6.1	I	243	1.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,773	I	704	10.0	D	350	4.5
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,546	D	564	3.7	D	1,207	8.3
Chemicals and allied products	25,415	I	425	1.7	D	1,454	5.7
Petroleum products	5,121	I	473	10.2	I	71	1.4
Stone, clay and glass products	10,919	I	1,472	15.6	I	452	4.1
Coke	5,365	I	418	8.4	I	496	9.2
Metals and products	10,459	I	1,550	17.4	D	1,130	10.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,041	I	5,616	34.2	I	2,278	10.3
Waste and scrap materials	10,604	I	2,138	25.3	I	388	3.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,435	D	1,615	17.8	D	1,823	24.5
All other carloads	59,876	I	13,221	28.3	I	2,027	3.4
LCL traffic	295	I	34	13.0	D	59	20.0
Total Cars Loaded	401,751	I	47,090	13.3	I	10,476	2.7
Corresponding week of 1983	354,661						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (10 weeks)	3,817,288	3,437,673	I 11.0
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
9 weeks ended March 3	151.4	135.9	I 11.4
Week ended March 10	17.7	15.5	I 14.8
10 weeks cumulative	169.2	151.4	I 11.7

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